

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4 were previously canceled. Claims 15-19 are added herein. Support for the new claims is found, for example, in the specification on page 8, lines 3-14.

Hence no new matter is introduced. Accordingly, upon entry of the Amendment, claims 5-19 will be all of the claims pending in the application for examination.

**I. Amendment to the Specification**

The specification is amended herein to indicate that the parent application, Ser. No. 09/647,614 is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/JP99/01207, and is now abandoned. Since this application is a nonprovisional application that entered the national stage after compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 371 from an international application filed under 35 U.S.C. § 363 before November 29, 2000, it is believed that the time periods set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(2)(ii) do not apply and therefore no petition to accept unintentionally delayed benefit claim and surcharge fee are required. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(2)(ii)(C).

Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment and a corrected Official Filing Receipt. A copy of the Official Filing Receipt showing the changes in red is submitted herewith for the Office's convenience.

**II. Response to Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 5-14 are rejected under 35 U.C.S. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawabuchi et al in view of Richter et al and Satoh.

The Examiner recognizes that Kawabuchi et al does not teach the preference of the amine catalyst over the other disclosed suitable organometallic compounds such as dibutyltin dilaurate or tin chloride. To remedy this deficiency the Examiner relies on the disclosure of Richter et al that catalytically active tin compounds, in particular tin carboxylates and tin alkoxides, have disadvantages of being sensitive to hydrolysis and impairing storage stability, particularly when used for the production of organic polyisocyanates. The Examiner takes the position that this disclosure would therefore motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to choose the amine catalyst disclosed by Kawabuchi et al in preparing a polyisocyanate such as the urethane (meth) acrylates taught by Kawabuchi et al. The Examiner further relies on Satoh for the teaching of the application of urethane (meth)acrylates as adhesive for bonding a magnetic head of a hard drive unit to its support arm (see abstract and claims). It is the Examiner's position that it would have been obvious to use the compositions of the primary reference as the adhesive in the reference to Satoh.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and submit that the prior art references, taken alone or in combination, do not render obvious the present invention.

Specifically, Richter et al teaches disadvantages of specific types of tin catalysts, i.e., tin carboxylates and tin alkoxides (see col. 1). The invention of Richter et al is to avoid the disadvantages of tin carboxylates and tin alkoxides and is accomplished by reacting a sulfonyl isocyanate with organic tin catalysts of a specified type in a specified manner (see "Summary of the Invention"). More specifically, Richter et al proposes the

use of a reaction product of a sulfonyl isocyanate and an organic tin catalyst having at least one tin-oxygen bond, wherein said organic tin catalyst is an organic compound in which each said tin oxygen bond is present in a structural unit selected from a tin-alkoxy group, a tin-siloxy group, or a distannoxane group (see Claim 1). In other words, Richter et al proposes a modification of a tin catalyst as recited in the claims, when a tin catalyst is used in the reaction of urethane.

Thus, Richter et al does not teach or suggest avoiding the use of tin compounds, nor teaches or suggests the use of amine compounds instead of tin compounds. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify or combine the references as suggested by the Examiner with a reasonable expectation of achieving the claimed invention

Further, the teaching of Richter et al as a whole would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to choose dibutyltin laurate modified as taught thereby. Therefore, even if one were to combine the teachings of Richter et al with the teachings of Kawabuchi et al, the present invention would not have been achieved. Further, Satoh fails to remedy the deficiencies of Richter et al and Kawabuchi et al. Thus, the prior art does not render the presently claimed invention obvious.

Accordingly Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

New claims 15-19 depend from independent claim 5 and are distinguished for at least the same reasons.

**III. Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

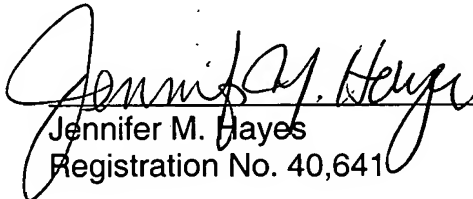
Respectfully submitted,

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